

Message Text

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12

ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10

CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 ACDA-07 /104 W

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O R 170425Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8890

INFO AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 6360

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNGA, US, KS

SUBJECT: UNGA: CALL FROM FOREIGN MINISTER

1. FOREIGN MINISTER PARK TONG JIN CALLED CHARGE AUGUST 17 TO INFORM EMBASSY THAT HOSTILE RESOLUTION HAD BEEN INTRODUCED IN UN EARLY MONDAY MORNING WITH 23 CO-SPONSORS. HE CHARACTERIZED RESOLUTION AS "MORE OF SAME". HE REQUESTED THAT ROK SUPPORTERS NOT LEAP TO INTRODUCE FRIENDLY RESOLUTION, BUT PROCEED ON A DELIBERATE PACE. HE WAS CONCERNED THAT APPEARANCE OF URGENCY WOULD GIVE IMPRESSION THAT OUR SIDE HAD BEEN CAUGHT BY SURPRISE AND NOW WAS REACTING IN A PANIC. IN HIS PRESS CONFERENCE AUGUST 17, FOREIGN MINISTER INTENDS TO POINT OUT THAT NORTH KOREA'S MOVE WAS NOT UNEXPECTED (IN FACT, HE POINTED OUT TO CHARGE THAT HE HAD BEEN PREDICTING TO US THIS POSSIBILITY ALL ALONG).

2. FOREIGN MINISTER ALSO INFORMED CHARGE THAT YESTERDAY'S DISCUSSION AT NAM HAD BEEN INCONCLUSIVE WITH THREE DRAFT RESOLUTIONS NOW BEING CONSIDERED. HE SAID THAT ISSUE HAD BEEN REMANDED TO A DRAFTING COMMITTEE WHICH HOWEVER CONSISTS PRIMARILY OF NORTH KOREAN PROPONENTS. AT HIS PRESS CONFERENCE, CONFIDENTIAL

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IF ASKED, FOREIGN MINISTER INTENDS TO INDICATE THAT HE

SPECULATES THAT THE REASON NORTH KOREANS SUBMITTED THEIR RESOLUTION BEFORE THE COMPLETION OF THE NAM DELIBERATIONS IS BECAUSE THEY MUST FEEL THAT THEY ARE NOT GETTING ALL THE SUPPORT FROM THE NAM THAT THEY HAD EXPECTED.

3. COMMENT. IN HIS USUAL POLITE FASHION, THE FOREIGN MINISTER INDICATED THAT HE HAD BEEN URGING FOR PRIORITY FOR SOMETIME AND THAT NOW HIS WORST FEARS HAD BEEN REALIZED. SINCE HIS PREFERRED SCENARIO HAD NOT COME TO PASS, HE NOW HOPES THAT THE CORE GROUP WILL SUPPORT HIM IN HIS DESIRE NOT TO RUSH IN THE SUBMISSION OF OUR RESOLUTION. FOREIGN MINISTER IS CLEARLY ESTABLISHING A RECORD. IF POSSIBLE, CHARGE BELIEVES WE SHOULD TRY TO ACCOMMODATE HIM ON HIS PRESENT REQUEST.
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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04 MAY 2006

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